

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Provided is an active matrix type EL display device, which is constructed in the way a reverse bias voltage is effectively applied to the EL element without decreasing the light-up time period percentage. The EL element 14 constituting one pixel 10 is light-up driven by a control TFT 11 and a drive TFT 12. To a cathode line C1 having commonly connected thereto the cathode sides of the EL elements 14 arrayed correspondingly to a scanning line A1, there is applied a forward-directional voltage that is determined using the voltage level of a common anode 16 as a reference, or a reverse bias voltage. In a case where a reverse bias voltage has been applied to the cathode line C1, a diode 15 becomes electrically conductive through bypassing the drive TFT 12. By this, it is possible to effectively apply a reverse bias voltage to the EL element. For example, in case where making concurrent use of a simultaneous erasure scan method (SES) in the time division gradation expression means, it is also possible to avoid the problem that the light-up time period percentage of the EL element is decreased.